

ABSTRACT

An area image sensor (1) includes a plurality of image pick-up elements (10, 20) arranged in a matrix including a plurality of element rows and a plurality of element columns. A plurality of signal lines (L11-L14) are allocated to a respective one of the element columns. Each of the signal lines includes an output terminal to which an A/D converter (30) is connected. Each of the image pick-up elements belonging to the one element column is connected to only one of the signal lines, and each of the signal lines is connected to at least one of the image pick-up elements belonging to the one element column.